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BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS.)

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1958



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1958

BOROUGH OF SAINT IVES (HUNTS.)

Mayor

Councillor E. R. DANSIE
(May - Dec.)

Aldermen

D. Bryant	E. G. Holmes (Dec-June)
G. W. Robb	T. H. Burgess

Councillors

G. Anderson (elected Nov.)	G. W. Kiddle
G. W. Burgess	G. P. Radford (Ald. in Aug.)
C. M. Haigh	E. O. Ruston (Mayor Jan.-May)
Miss H. M. Grove	R. A. Singfield (elected May)
Mrs. M. Hudson	R. H. Stiles
E. R. Ilott	P. G. Turner (Dec.-May)
D. M. Westrope	

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health

J. CALDWELL,
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.&S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

J. G. REESON,
C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E., Cert. Bldg. Insp.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the Borough of St. Ives (Hunts) for the year ending,
31st December, 1958.

To:-

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of St. Ives (Hunts).

Your Worship and members of the Council.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1958.

As in the previous year the Birth Rate continues to follow an upward trend and still remains well above the figure for the country as a whole—more births having taken place in the Borough this year than in any year since at least 1950. It is a pleasing feature to note the complete absence of still-birth and infant mortality—a combination of circumstances which reflects very favourably upon the available Health Services.

The Death Rate indicates a slight rise as compared with last year and continues to remain fractionally above the National average.

Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis were again characterised by their absence and vaccination against this latter disease continued within the Borough throughout the year with increasing momentum—the eligible age group having been extended to include persons up to the age of 26 years.

Under the Slum Clearance programme construction of houses to replace tenants from unfit houses will shortly be commenced within the Borough and when this is completed some of the black spots, which have existed for many years, will have been cleared up.

Considerable private development has also taken place during the year and it would appear that this development will continue in the future.

Plans for a comprehensive Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme have been submitted to the Ministry and it is hoped that soon it will be possible for the work to go ahead.

The Water supply for the Borough is generally satisfactory, but there is still need for improvement in the pressure in the Houghton Hill area.

In conclusion I should like to thank Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration to me, and to their Officers for all the help which they have given me during the year,

I am, Your obedient Servant,
J. CALDWELL.
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	2,326 acres
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£50,978
Value of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£187
Number of inhabited houses (approx.)	...	...	...	...	...	1,235
Population	...	...	...	...	...	3,420

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	43	30	73	Birth-rate per 1,000
Illegitimate	—	1	1	estimated population 21.6
				(Ditto for England
Total	43	31	74	and Wales) 16.4

STILL BIRTHS				
Legitimate	—	—	—	Birth-rate per 1,000
Illegitimate	—	—	—	estimated population Nil
				(Ditto for England
Total	—	—	—	and Wales) 21.6

DEATHS				
(all ages)	17	24	41	Death-rate per 1,000
				estimated population 12.0
				(Ditto for England
				and Wales) 11.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...
Illegitimate	...	...	...
Total	—	—	—

Death-rates of Infants under 1 year			
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	Nil
(Ditto for England and Wales)	...	...	22.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	Nil
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar General's List)

List No.	Causes					M.	F.
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	0	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	0	0
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	1	2
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	1	0
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	0	0
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	0	0
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	3	2
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	0	0
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	...	...	...	...	3	4
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	3	3
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	0	1
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	2	4
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	2	0
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	0	1
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	0	0
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	0
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	0	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	0	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	0	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	0	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	0	2
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	0	0
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	0	2
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	0	2
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	0	0
Total all causes						17	24

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) **Laboratory Facilities**

The following laboratory facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area.—

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road,
Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst, S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.,
Tenison Road, Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 2097.

(b) **Ambulance Services**

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service have been available on doctor's orders. Tel.: Huntingdon 348.

(c) **Home Nursing**

A nurse-midwife resident in St. Ives (Tel.: St. Ives 2228), employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council, carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the Borough.

(d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres**

(i) The following Health Services are provided by the Huntingdon County Council:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	3rd Friday in month. —morning	Health Clinic, Station Approach, St Ives.
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 yrs.)	Every Friday. 2-4 p.m.	Ditto.
Dental	Pre-school and schoolchildren. Pre-natal and nursing mothers.	Every Monday 9 a.m.-12 noon. 1.30-4.30 p.m. Every Saturday 9 a.m.-12 noon.	Ditto.
Speech Therapy	Schoolchildren	Every Wednesday morning. Alternative Wednesday afternoons	Ditto.

(ii) The following health services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board:-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday. 10 a.m.-12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Mondays, 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays, 4-6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge
	Males:	Mondays, 5.30-7 p.m. Wednesdays, 5.30-7 p.m.	Out-Patients Department, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.
	Females:	Tuesdays, 10.30-12 noon Thursdays, 5.30-7 p.m.	
		1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in month (Sister) 10 a.m.-12 noon.	Health Clinic, Station Approach, St. Ives
Orthopaedic	Pre-school and schoolchildren		

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment except in emergency). 10 a.m.-12 noon. 2-3 p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patients' Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services.

Fever. Cases of Infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

1. Water Supply.

The Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Board supplies water to the Borough in bulk and it is supplied from the Reservoir at Bourne in Cambridgeshire by two routes. An 8" main reducing to 6" laid through Conington and Fenstanton and a 9" main reducing to 6" laid through Papworth and Hilton. These mains meet outside the Borough Boundary, and one 6" main delivers the water to the Bridge foot. Concern has been felt over the difficulty experienced by residents in the Houghton Hill area in obtaining a continuous supply of water. Efforts are being made to overcome these difficulties.

465 yards of new 3" asbestos water main were laid during the year.

42 samples were taken from various points on the main and were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge for examination and report. Of these 8 were reported as being unsatisfactory. In each case investigations were made and satisfactory results obtained when a further sample was taken.

The rainfall for the year was 28.07 inches, which was 5.88 inches above the previous year.

Main Supply

Quality	Satisfactory
Samples taken	42
Unsatisfactory samples later corrected	8
Estimated number of premises on supply—	Direct 1205
	Standpipe 20
Estimated population served	Direct 3331
	Standpipe 60

Other Samples

Samples taken	9
Samples found to be unfit	1
(action taken by the owner and a (subsequent sample proved satisfactory)	
Estimated number of premises on well supply	10
Estimated population served by well	29

2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

A scheme which was prepared by the Consulting Engineers to deal with the whole of the Borough was forwarded to

the Ministry for consideration. It is to be hoped that considerable progress will be made during the coming year. The need for an efficient sewage disposal works becomes more apparent when one considers the new development which has already taken place and that which is likely to take place in the Town in the near future.

The Council did extend its sewer along the Ramsey Road to take the sewage from new properties being built in that area.

3. Rivers and Streams.

No works of importance were carried out during the year.

4. Closet Accommodation.

The collection and disposal of nightsoil has again been carried out by the Saint Ives Rural District Council under Contract and no complaints have been received.

Further pail closets have been converted to water closets during the year.

5. Public Cleansing.

The Saint Ives Rural District Council has, under Contract, been responsible for the collection and disposal of house refuse including provision of labour. No complaints have been received.

6. Swimming Pool.

Meetings of representatives from both the Borough and the Rural District have been held during the year and it is hoped that before the end of the present year considerable progress will have been made towards the construction of a pool.

7. Shops Act.

One infringement was found and the owners were requested to take steps to comply with the Act.

8. Camping Sites.

No applications were received for the licensing of either camping sites or individual caravans in the Borough during the year.

9. Smoke abatement.

One complaint was received during the year and the matter was discussed with the owners of the property who undertook to abate the nuisance.

10. Bed Bugs.

No reports of infestation were received during the year and no premises were found to be infested.

11. Rat and Mice Destruction.

The Council's Rodent operator has dealt with all complaints received and all the work has been carried out without the need for Statutory action.

12. Petroleum Acts.

The number of licences issued during the year was as under:-

Over 1,000 gallons	12
500—1,000 gallons	9
Under 500 gallons	1

13. Dangerous Buildings.

Five properties were considered to be dangerous and in every case the owner took steps to render the property safe after having his attention drawn to the matter.

INSPECTIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6	9	27	Nil	Nil
(2) Section 7	41	80	Nil	Nil
Total	50	107	Nil	Nil

Defect	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	4	4	—	—
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	5	5	—	—
Total	9	9	—	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK.

Samples of milk were taken in course of delivery to consumers and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge for examination. All samples were found to comply with the required standard.

ICE-CREAM.

Number of retailers on register	14
Number of inspections	30

Eleven samples of ice-cream were submitted for examination and all samples were placed in Grade 1.

MEAT and SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

Owing to the fact that the killing of all animals for human consumption is carried out at the Council's Slaughterhouse, which is leased to a local firm of Auctioneers, it is possible to maintain 100% inspection.

The following table shows the number of animals killed, carcasses and offal inspected and condemned:-

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	804	13	465	3319
Number inspected	804	13	465	3319
(All diseases except tuberculosis):—				
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	1	2	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	119	—	—	93
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	14.80	7.61	.43	2.95
(Tuberculosis only):—				
Whole carcasses condemned ..	4	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	80	—	—	61
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	10.44	—	—	1.83
Cysticercosis:—				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	4	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	4	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT.

			Condemnations			
		Number killed	Number of whole carcases	Weight of whole carcases	Weight of Parts and Organs	Total Weight
Cattle		804	4	2596 lb.	4626 lb.	7222 lb.
Calves		13	1	140 lb.	—	140 lb.
Sheep and Lambs..		465	2	100 lb.	—	100 lb.
Pigs		3319	5	312 lb.	745 lb.	1057 lb.
Total ..		4601	12	3148 lb.	5371 lb.	8519 lb.

Total animals killed 4,601.

Total meat condemned, 3 tons 16 cwt. 7 lbs.

OTHER FOODS.

Other foods condemned during the year were as follows:-

	6st.	5lb.	8oz.
Corned Beef	6	6	2
Ham	1	9	3
Tinned Steak	1	5	8
Tinned Beef	1	5	8
Tinned Milk	11	12	
Luncheon Meat	10	8	
Beef Loaf	10	8	
Pilchards	8	0	
Brisket of Beef	6	0	
Jellied Veal	6	0	
Corned Mutton	5	0	
Salmon	4	8	
Marmalade	3	12	
Tomatoes		12	
Lambs' Tongues			12

During the year all carcasses of animals and birds entered in the produce market at the local auction were inspected and the following were seized as being unfit for human consumption:-

18 Chickens.

4 Rabbits.

2 Turkeys.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are two bakehouses on the register one of which is unsatisfactory structurally, and negotiations are taking place with the owner as to the future use of this bakehouse.

FOOD PREMISES.

It has not been possible during the year to inspect all the food premises to ensure they comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, but it is hoped that they will be brought up to date during the next year.

HOUSING

Slum Clearance.

During the year Demolition Orders were made in respect of:-

3 Houses in Church Street.

1 House in Church Place.

6 Houses in Nicholas Lane.

The occupants of the houses in Church Street were rehoused during the year, and these properties and the house in Church Place were all demolished.

Two houses were demolished in the Green Street Clearance area.

Albert Terrace was partly demolished after the rehousing of the last of the occupants. This Terrace was the subject of a Clearance Order which was confirmed before 1939.

Certificates of Disrepair.

Applications were made by two tenants for Certificates of Disrepair. The owners gave undertakings to execute the repairs required and these were completed during the year.

New Houses.

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows:-

Council	20
Private	63

The Borough appears to be the target for private enterprise development and plans are in being for the development of several new estates.

Overcrowding.

No cases of overcrowding were reported or investigated during the year.

INSPECTION AND ACTION DURING THE YEAR.

Number of houses found to be in state unfit for habitation.	...	10
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation.	...	0
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be relet for habitation.	...	0
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Demolition Order was made	...	10
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Closing Order was made.	...	0

J. G. REESON,
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1958 **22**

Pulmonary: **19**

Non-Pulmonary: **3**

AGE PERIODS				New Cases—Diagnosed				New Cases—Transfers			
				Respiratory		Non-Res.		Respiratory		Non-Res.	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	..	..	..	..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45	..	..	..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..				I	I	O	O	O	O	O	O

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

							Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							3

The Ridley Press,
Cambridge and St. Ives
